

MADD/LawEnforcement **News Conference**

Wednesday, December 20, 2006 – 11AM

*The Miller Brewing Company Pavillion Building
- The Miller Room -
910 East Michigan Street, Milwaukee*

- Good Morning. Thank you for joining us today. It is my pleasure to tell you that for the first time in more than 10 years, Mothers Against Drunk Driving has a chapter in Milwaukee.

- The state executive director Keri Kennard recently moved to the area and Keri... it is my pleasure to welcome you to Milwaukee County.

- We organized this news conference today to remind the public about the *dangers* and *consequences* of drinking and driving.

- According to national government statistics, there were **16,885** alcohol-related fatalities last year.

- In Milwaukee County, no incident highlights the drinking and driving problem more than the recent arrest of 44-year-old Dean Allen Sims.

- 2 a.m. Monday, deputies observed a white Mazda 626 driving erratically (*deviating from lane to lane*) on southbound I-43 near Lapham.

- The deputy stopped the car and detected a strong smell of alcohol on the driver.
- The deputy administered a field sobriety test which Mr. Sems failed. A breathalyzer indicated that his alcohol level was .15 – almost twice the legal limit.
- Here's what's most disturbing. A criminal background check shows that Mr. Sems has *11* prior OWI convictions dating back to 1990. Monday's arrest was his **12th** OWI arrest.

- Look at the law enforcement representatives here. These men and women are doing their jobs. We're taking drunk drivers off the streets but too often our efforts are thwarted by a judicial system that tells drivers... *“until you kill someone, we're not going to get serious with you.”*

- From the paperwork we've been able to obtain, we know that Dean Sems was arrested for OWI 7 times before he served time. Starting August of 1992, he spent 11 months in the House of Correction and received a \$1030.00 fine.

- Unfortunately, after getting out he continued to drink and drive.

- He continued to receive sentences of no more than one year.

- After he received his 10th OWI arrest, his crime became a felony and he served time in prison from April 15th 2001 to January 7th, 2003.
- Two months after his release from prison, Dean Sems was drinking and driving again. He served another 22 months in prison and while on probation, he was arrested by a Milwaukee County Sheriff's deputy Monday.

Dean A. Sems Arrest History:

Arrest #1: November 11th 1989
Out of State – No Info

Arrest #2: May 27, 1990
In Milwaukee County
Citation Issued

Arrest #3 July 29, 1990
In Racine County
No Info

Arrest #4 August 3, 1990
Out of State – No Info

Arrest #5 September 13th, 1991
Out of State- No Info

Arrest #6 October 12th, 1991
In Racine County- no info

Arrest #7 August 1st, 1992
Milwaukee County
11 months House of
Correction, \$1030.00 fine

Arrest #8 March 24, 1993
Emmet County, MI
Sentence to 135 days in jail

Arrest #9 August 27, 1995
Preque Isle, MI
Sentenced to 1 year,
\$640fine

Arrest #10: August 19, 2000

Racine County

Arrest is for FELONY OWI

Sentenced to 2 years in state prison,
one year probation,

Served time from April 15th 2001 –
January 7th, 2003 (in prison about 20
months)

**Arrest #11 (comes while on
probation for Arrest #10)**

March 8, 2003 – Arrested by
Washburn County Sheriff's Office

Sentenced to 2 years 6 months

He is in state prison from October 16,
2003- August 30, 2005 (Serves 22
out of 30 months)

On August 24th ...Arrested for disorderly conduct – (drunk but not driving) violated parole, in custody for 5 days at secure detention facility..released August 29, 2006.

Arrest #12: Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office

Arrested while serving 3 years 6 months probation for Arrest #11.

On probation until March 3, 2009

Agencies Sending Representatives to News Conference:

- Waukesha County Sheriff's Office
- WI State Patrol
- Racine County Sheriff's Office
- Bayside Police Dept.
- Brown Deer Police Dept.
- Cudahy Police Dept.
- Franklin Police Dept.
- Glendale Police Dept.
- Greenfield Police Dept.
- River Hills Dept.
- St. Francis Police Dept.
- Shorewood Police Dept.
- Whitefish Bay Police Dept.
- West Allis
- West Milwaukee Police Dept.

